

Uganda

## Cattle Grazing Act Chapter 51

Legislation as at 31 December 2023

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# Uganda

## Cattle Grazing Act

### Chapter 51

Commenced on 31 October 1945

*[This is the version of this document at 31 December 2023.]*

*[Note: This legislation was revised and consolidated as at 31 December 2000 and 31 December 2023 by the Law Reform Commission of Uganda. All subsequent amendments have been researched and applied by Laws.Africa for ULII.]*

*[Amended by [Law Revision \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Act, 2023 \(Act 17 of 2023\)](#) on 28 July 2023]*

#### **An Act to regulate and control cattle grazing.**

*[Cap. 223 (Revised Edition, 1964); Cap. 42 (Revised Edition, 2000); Act 17/2023]*

#### **1. Interpretation**

In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires—

“**cattle**” means bulls, cows, oxen, calves, sheep and goats;

“**currency point**” has the value assigned to it in the Schedule to this Act;

“**veterinary officer**” means any person or class of persons declared by the Commissioner of Livestock and Entomology by statutory instrument to be a veterinary officer for the purposes of this Act.

#### **2. Prohibition of grazing**

- (1) A person shall not cause or permit any cattle belonging to him or her or under his or her control to graze on any land in respect of which there is in force an order made by a veterinary officer prohibiting grazing or in respect of which there is in force any order or rule made by a district administration prohibiting grazing.
- (2) A veterinary officer, with respect to land within his or her area or a district administration, with respect to land within the area of its jurisdiction, may make orders—
  - (a) prescribing the maximum number of cattle that may be grazed on any particular area of land;
  - (b) prescribing the maximum number of cattle that any person may be

permitted to graze on any particular area of land, and every such order shall be published either by affixing a copy of it on a conspicuous part of the area of land referred to in the order, or in any other manner reasonably calculated to bring the order to the notice of any person who may be affected by it.

#### **3. Impounding of cattle**

- (1) Any cattle found grazing on any land in contravention of section 2 may be impounded either by the veterinary officer or by the district administration in such place or places as he or she or it may deem fit, and the cattle may, if not claimed by the owner within six days, be sold by the veterinary officer or district administration and the proceeds of the sale disposed of as the Minister may direct.
- (2) In the case of cattle claimed by their owners before the expiry of the six days specified in subsection (1), the veterinary officer or district administration may retain such number of them as he or she or it may deem fit as security for any fine to be paid in the event of the owner’s conviction or as security for payment of all costs involved in impounding, herding and maintaining the cattle.

**4. Report of impounding of cattle to chief administrative officer**

Any district administration which impounds cattle under this Act shall immediately report the impounding to the chief administrative officer.

**5. Rules**

The Minister may make rules for better carrying out the provisions of this Act.

**6. Offence and penalty**

Any person who contravenes any order made under section 2 or any rule made under section 5 commits an offence, and is liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding twelve currency points or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or both.

**7. Application**

This Act shall apply only to such areas of Uganda as the Minister may by statutory instrument declare.

**8. Power to amend Schedule**

The Minister responsible for finance may, by statutory instrument, with the approval of Cabinet, amend the Schedule to this Act.

**Schedule (Sections 1, 8)****Currency point**

A currency point is equivalent to twenty thousand shillings.